



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, Ca. 94105-3901

OCT 15 1992

Mr. Greg Thomas Sr., Vice Chairman
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley
P.O. Box 219
Elko County
Owyhee, NV 89832

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Thank you for your interest in the EPA's Wellhead Protection (WHP) Demonstration Projects program. Many well-written proposals were submitted for review, making the process highly competitive. We evaluated each proposal based on five predetermined national criteria and five regional priorities. We are sorry to inform you your proposal was not selected for funding this year.

Your proposal listed all the components of a successful WHP program and ranked high in our review. Unfortunately, there were others that ranked higher. The strength of your proposal was in the management techniques that were recommended. However, the wellhead protection areas must be delineated before they can be managed and it was not clear who would perform the delineations in your proposals. The plan to hire a director, knowledgeable in environmental protection methods, did not seem sufficiently technical to perform this activity.

You will remain on our mailing list and we encourage you to reapply for the funds next year. If you would like direct technical assistance developing your program, please call the EPA project officer, Ms. Michele Kimpel at 415-744-1912.

Sincerely,

William M. Thurston

William M. Thurston, Chief
Drinking Water and
Ground Water Protection Branch

cc: Herman Atkins, Tribal Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

10 FEB 1992

In reply
Refer to: W-6-1

Rod Weber
Office of Environmental Health
PHS, IHS
P.O. Box 1806
Elko, Nevada 89801

Dear Mr. Weber:

As per your telephone conversation on February 5, 1992, with Kevin Ryan regarding the Duckvalley groundwater contamination, I am responding to your request that EPA provide an interpretation of the risks associated with consuming water from this source.

The chemical analyses of the aquifer indicate that it is contaminated by a fuel source. We believe that this level of 5 mg/liter of contaminant is of human health concern. While the analytical data are incomplete, the presence of substituted benzenes is of particular concern and suggests the probability of significant long-term health risks, such as liver and kidney damage. In addition, water with this contamination would not be palatable to the average consumer.

We at EPA recommend that an alternative source be found for domestic use. If I may be of any additional assistance contact me at (415) 744-1855 or you may contact the project officer, Kevin Ryan, at (415) 744-1849.

Sincerely,

Bruce A. Macler, Ph.D.
Regional Expert Toxicologist

cc: James Paiva, Chairman
Kevin Ryan, EPA, R-9 ✓



10 FEB 1992

In reply
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PHS, IHS
P.O. Box 1806
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Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

Bruce A. Macler, Ph.D.
Regional Expert Toxicologist

cc: James Paiva, Chairman
Kevin Ryan, EPA, R-9

SYMBOL	W-6-1					W-6-1
SURNAME	Macler					E. Paiva
DATE	2/10					2/10/92

U.S. EPA CONCURRENCES

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